

sons, when they come to consider their replies to the President's note. The concerted demand that peace terms be made clear and definite, with the weight of all the neutrals behind it, would be a vastly different matter than an individual demand from the United States as a single neutral. Such a demand would force deep and earnest consideration by the belligerents before they could afford to refuse to comply with it.

FRENCH PRESS AND PUBLIC STIRRED AWE BY NOTE

PARIS, December 24.—The unanimous vote of the Senate, affirming that France cannot conclude peace with an enemy who occupies French territory, coming at the same time as the peace note of the Swiss government, has stirred anew the French press and public. The action of the Senate gave further indication of the attitude of the entente allies toward President Wilson's proposals, while confidence voted in the Briand ministry was regarded most favorably.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber devoted a large part of the session yesterday to an examination of President Wilson's note.

The Petit Journal suggests that President Wilson, in sending the note, knew he would have the support of Switzerland, and says:

"France pities its neighbor, menaced like Belgium, perhaps, but France, which did not want war, knows that there are suggestions that honor and interest prevent it from hearing."

The Petit Parisien says that the Swiss note confirms one of the declarations of President Wilson referring to discussions engaged in five weeks ago between Bern and Washington. It adds:

"The note deserves the same courteous examination and reserve. France will not forget the treatment by the Swiss of the interned and repatriated people, but has a right to recall that as to the war the entente allies cannot be placed on the same footing as the central powers."

The Echo de Paris says: "Our resolution will demonstrate once more that the Federal Council would be mistaken as to the feeling of the allies and the French in particular. It believed them disposed to negotiate with Germany. Germany has attempted the same effort in Switzerland as in the other European neutral countries to procure benevolent intervention."

The Matin says: "It must be remarked that the Federal Council supports the efforts of America without associating itself with regard to the questions. Instead of asking the governments to make known the objects of the war, it limits itself to the very honorable wish that peace be concluded now, and homage is to be rendered to the sentiments dictating the note."

SOUTH AMERICANS IN SYMPATHY WITH U. S.

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—Probably all South American governments are in sympathy with President Wilson's move for peace.

Owing to the fact that allies have exhibited considerable coolness toward the American peace proposal, the masses of the Argentine people have also apparently adopted that attitude—mainly because of the large number of Italian residents here.

But the comment of the Argentine press continues unanimously friendly to the proposal and there seems no question but that the government likewise takes this view.

Dispatches here indicate that the whole South American continent shares this sympathetic view—namely Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile and even Brazil—though the Congress of those nations and the public may for the moment feel otherwise.

VIEW OF WILSON NOTE IN BERLIN ARE CONFUSED

(Continued from First Page.)

about peace, and in the entire document one thing is clear—namely, that the objectively examined terms which constitute that he takes a stand for one group of the combatant powers or the other. There is no ground, therefore, for the attempt to represent the offer of the American President as an unconditionally friendly fact. Basically, President Wilson was not coming else than with Germany and its allies wish to attain by their peace overtures.

The Laiki Anzeiger reiterates that Germany differs from its opponents in that it has proved by its peace overture that it wants to bring about peace. "Should all efforts fail," concludes the paper, "there will be nothing left for us but to fight our way out of the consciousness which our enemies declare is an absolute pre-condition of their willingness to make peace, namely the consciousness that peace is necessary to us, still, since quickly and thoroughly their statements and peoples."

DOUBT EXPRESSED AS TO PRACTICABILITY

(By Associated Press.)

ROME, December 24.—Commenting on President Wilson's note, the Giornale Italia says the document is humanitarian and praiseworthy, but expresses doubt as to its practicability. "President Wilson's note was suggested by Germany," says the paper. "Germany desired that her peace proposal should be followed by a great pacific manifestation, and tried to obtain it through the Vatican, which refused, but when Germany declared to Washington she was ready to examine any peace project of any neutral country she induced President Wilson to present his note."

VATICAN ORGANS EXPRESSES ITS FULL SATISFACTION

(By Associated Press.)

ROME, December 24.—The Osservatore Romano, the official organ of the Vatican, in reference to President Wilson's note to the belligerents, says it wishes to express full satisfaction "for this very important document," by which the authoritative voice of the head of the American republic calls to the warring parties to "consider their grave responsibilities" and advises means to hasten the end of the war. It recalls that Pope Benedict also made virtually the same attempt in July, 1915. The newspaper expresses the hope that the note will be favorably received.

NOTE WILL NOT CHANGE COURSE OF EVENTS

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, December 24.—The Rome correspondent of the Havas News Agency sends the following comment of the Messagero:

"The American note will not change the course of events if it is no more than the pious and noble desire for

"LET'S TALK IT OVER!"



(Copyright, 1916, International News Service.)

peace shared by the powers of the entente, which did not impose but have submitted to the war let loose by the central empires. That which the quadruple alliance desires is not a mystery. England asks the re-entrance of Germany within Germany's own boundaries, respect for oppressed nationalities, regard for international agreements and equitable damages for the ruin wrought. France has placed open upon the carpet the recovery of Alsace and Lorraine. Italy, in the same manner has defined her rights to the Irredentist territories on the eastern side of the sea which are essential to tranquil life on the Adriatic. Russia wishes to be no longer suffocated in the Black Sea. The straits belong to her. Serbia, likewise, must have her territories and a free outlet. Rumania must rescue her sons suffering under the Magyar yoke.

WILSON'S NOTE DELIVERED TO RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, December 24.—David R. Francis, the American ambassador at Petrograd, yesterday handed President Wilson's note to the Russian foreign minister, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, says a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd today.

BITTERLY ARRANGS COURSE OF WILSON

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, December 24.—Lord Northcliffe's Weekly Dispatch, the Sunday newspaper which is closest to the new administration in England, today bitterly arranges President Wilson, declaring his course in sending the peace note "an insult not easily to be condoned when he suggests that Britons and Germans in a general way are fighting for the same cause."

The same newspaper placed big headlines over a New York message attributing President Wilson's note largely to German Ambassador Bernstorff's clever propaganda work, and commented at length on the failure of the British to cope with the propaganda.

J. L. Garvin, in a six-column article in today's Observer, calls President Wilson's note "a memorable mistake which jeopardizes all the bright possibilities of the role which might have been, and may still be, reserved for the American President at a later stage."

He holds that the entente allies, in reply to President Wilson's note, are bound to vindicate their cause before history, and declares that special measures are required.

"If Viscount Bryce is not available to specially represent us in the United States," says the paper, "why should not Lord Roschey be asked? Would it not be possible for these two to go together? Perhaps the best choice would be Mr. Asquith. If such an appointment were made, the person chosen ought to be of the highest political rank and intellectual distinction."

The Observer adds: "President Wilson's request to the

allies to define their terms and objects must be very courteously received, and demands a reasoned answer. While it might be explained to the President that in the very nature of the case no speedy reply could be given to so considerable a request as a full statement of the terms of the allies, the latter might do worse, in our opinion, than appoint a special body sitting in Paris to go into the question."

WILSON'S NOTE DELIVERED TO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

(By Associated Press.)

TOKYO, JAPAN, December 23.—President Wilson's note to the belligerent powers has been delivered to the Japanese government. The note has aroused extraordinary interest. The general view of it taken by the press is that, while it is not connected with the German peace proposal, it is not unreasonable to suppose the two may eventually be joined and lead to peace negotiations. The prediction is voiced that Japan and her allies will reply to President Wilson in the spirit of his idea, but it is commented that they entered the war "in the robe of peace," and that the efforts to "overthrow German militarism" are based upon a desire to solidify permanent world peace.

STILL PRINCIPAL TOPIC IN THE FRENCH PRESS

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, December 24.—President Wilson's note is still the principal topic in the press, stress being laid in the comment on its coincidence with the period of deliberation

INTERVENTION NOW INVOLVES PARTIALITY

(By Associated Press.)

MILAN, ITALY (via Paris), December 24.—The radical newspaper Secolo, in its comment on President Wilson's note to belligerents, says: "Why should neutrals who kept quiet when the Germans dishonored Europe take a stand against war to-day, when the allies have well-founded hopes of defeating those responsible for so many iniquities? Their intervention now is an act involving partiality. Therefore, President Wilson's initiative is not only inopportune, but unbecoming."

The conservative Perseveranza says: "Evidently President Wilson fears that peace will be concluded without his assistance, but he need not fear, as peace is still far off."

The Socialist newspaper, Avanti,

praises the President, adding that his note marks a noteworthy step toward the conclusion of peace, even if it does not bring an immediate definite result.

MARCONI SYMPATHIZES WITH WILSON'S ATTITUDE

(By Associated Press.)

ROME, December 23 (via Paris).—Senator Guglielmo Marconi, the inventor of wireless telegraphy, who returned from the United States to Italy early in the war, and now holds the rank of lieutenant, said to the Associated Press today regarding President Wilson's note:

"I sympathize with the attitude of the President. I appreciate the feelings of the American people, but I think the central empires should be the first to make definite proposals. Thus far they have not done so."

PRESIDENT WILSON THANKED FOR EFFORT FOR PEACE

(By Associated Press.)

THE HAGUE, December 23 (via London, December 24).—Cable messages were sent President Wilson today thanking him for "his effort for peace," wishing him success and invoking the Divine blessing upon it, from the Netherlands group of the World Union of Churches, the Netherlands National Woman's Council and the Liberal Democratic Union.

NOTE MORE OF ULTIMATUM THAN EFFORT AT MEDIATION

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, December 24.—A Reuter dispatch from Melbourne today quotes Premier Hughes, of the Australian Commonwealth, as follows, in reference to Secretary of State Lansing's explanation of President Wilson's note to the belligerents:

"Under the guise of an addenda to the peace note despatched by the mediator, the situation abruptly discloses that the situation is a critical one to bring the mediator to the verge of war. The peace note cannot be read apart from the thinly veiled demand to know the allies' intentions, not for the purpose of mediation, but in America's interests. Seen in this light the note is more of an ultimatum than an effort at mediation."

Premier Hughes, adds the dispatch, has received an invitation to attend the Imperial Conference early next year, and it is believed he will accept.

D. C. MILITIAMAN IS SHOT ON BORDER

(By Associated Press.)

SAN ANTONIO, December 24.—While in company with several militiamen who became involved in a quarrel with policemen here last night, Robert E. Wellingham, a member of the Third Infantry, District National Guard, was shot and seriously wounded.

Wellingham was endeavoring to quiet his noisy comrades, when the police arrived. The militiamen, some of whom were riotously celebrating their Christmas leave in town, drew their guns, and a lively fight began, which ended in seriously wounding Wellingham and one of the policemen. Both are reported in a critical condition.

Wellingham, whose parents live at 189 Bryant Street, Northwest, Washington, was employed as a motorman by the Washington Railway and Electric Company at the time of the militia's being called into Federal service. Shortly after the encampment of the District contingent near Fort Myer he gave up his position and enlisted as a private in Company H, Third Infantry. He is twenty-eight years old.

Presented With Gold Medal.

The Young Judean Club, at its meeting last night, presented a gold medal to Miss Rebecca Edles, in recognition of her work in the club's interest.

Advances Its Rates.

(By Associated Press.)

WHEELING, W. VA., December 24.—The Wheeling Daily News to-day announced its subscription rates would be advanced from 10 cents to 15 cents a week on January 12.

CHANDLER RECOMMENDS \$1,000,000 BOND ISSUE

That Much Needed for New Buildings, Says City School Superintendent.

MAYOR GETS ANNUAL REPORT

Shows That Richmond's Per Capita Expenditure for Educational Purposes Is \$4.00 Against \$5.08 for Other Cities in Same Class.

Bonds should be issued by the city of Richmond for \$250,000 annually for four successive years, making a total of \$1,000,000, to provide adequate school buildings, according to the recommendation of the City School Board, which will be considered next month by the Council. Crowded conditions in the public school necessitated the holding of 112 classes on part time in the session of 1915-1916.

The budget submitted to the Council by the School Board will call for liberal increases in teachers' salaries. The number of teachers, supervisors and medical inspectors employed in the city schools of Richmond last session was 968. The average salary was \$821. The corps of teachers is highly trained according to the report of the superintendent, Dr. J. C. Chandler. Of the 764 white teachers, only sixty-one hold certificates as low as first grade. All are graduates of colleges or normal schools or have taken professional courses in summer schools.

CITY SCHOOLS COST

\$1,223,334 LAST YEAR. The total expenditure for schools in Richmond for the year ending June 30, 1916, was \$1,223,334.88, about \$30,000 of which was contributed by the State. From the taxes of the city approximately \$415,000 was spent. The teachers received a total of \$797,923.10. The city issued bonds for \$425,000, which was spent for school building.

Richmond spends an average of \$15.07 per inhabitant annually for general municipal enterprises, as compared with the average of \$15.12 for all cities of the same class, said Superintendent Chandler last night. "The other cities spend \$5.98 per inhabitant for schools, however, while Richmond spends but \$4.00. In order for Richmond to keep up with its fellows it must spend an additional \$150,000 for schools every year. The budget submitted to the Council is made out on the basis of that increase."

The report of the superintendent and School Board for the year ending June 30, 1916, will be submitted to Mayor Ainslie next Thursday. It will show a total school population of 21,541, of which 14,195 are white and 7,346 are colored. The total enrollment was 20,599, of whom 20,398 were white and 2,001 were colored; and of whom 16,771 were girls and 14,128 were boys. Of the entire enrollment, 3,090 white and 2,065 colored, or a total of 5,155, were in the night schools. The actual number of classes in operation was 112, in which there was an average of thirty-five children to each teacher.

Following the suggestion of the report of the vocational survey of Richmond made by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1914, the vocational courses be reorganized and enlarged, trade extension classes formed and domestic arts instruction given. Great advances have been made in the Richmond schools in the year 1915-1916, according to the report. The improvements included the addition of equipment to the Vocational School, the addition of pre-vocational courses at Binford Junior High School, the organization of the Vocational Night School, an increase in the number of elementary night schools offering instruction in cooking, sewing and millinery and the securing of closer cooperation with organized labor.

RAISES PAY OF EMPLOYEES

Adams Express Company Announces Increase in Annual Wage Schedule of \$1,000,000.

NEW YORK, December 24.—The Adams Express Company announced yesterday that additional monthly pay to employees, already made and to be made in lieu of a contingent bonus, will increase its annual wage schedule by \$1,000,000.

Christmas Day at White House

President and Members of "Enlarged" Family Prepare for Celebration.

WASHINGTON, December 24.—Santa Claus clambered the capacious chimney of the White House to-night, and after depositing the contents of a generous bag around the roots of the towering Christmas tree in the wide living hall of the second floor, and "laying his finger aside of his nose," gave a nod according to his time-honored custom and flashed away again.

Tight after breakfast to-morrow morning there will be a gathering in the upper hallway, when all the presents will be displayed, the tissue wrappings and scarlet ribbon scattered, and the enlarged "White House family" will settle down to the business of making a Merry Christmas for old and young. Plans for the church going of the household and its week-end visitors were somewhat hatched to-night. It is promised that a fair-sized church-going delegation will be provided, but there will be no obligation to attend services upon any of the members of the group.

Christmas dinner will be served in the State dining-room at 8 o'clock. Around the board will be the score of members of the President's immediate family, and the few guests which include Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bowen, Secretary of the Treasury, and Mrs. McAdoo, Mrs. Margaret Wilson, Miss Helen Woodrow Bones, Mrs. Cotnam, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bolling. Turkey and trimmings and smoking plum-pudding will be the feature of the repast. Before the dinner party there will be an illumination of the Christmas tree.

TRAINS DECORATED

People of City in Oregon Place Wreaths of Holly on Coaches.

PORTLAND, ORE., December 24.—Great wreaths of holly bearing the legend, "Greetings from Portland, Oregon," were placed to-day in the observation car of every through train that left Portland. The wreaths will be left in the cars until after the holidays.

This unique feature was instituted jointly by the Ad Club, the Progressive Business Men's Club, the Rotary Club, the Realty Board and the Chamber of Commerce.

The last trains to reach Chicago and New York from the Northwest on Christmas Eve will be decorated with an eight-foot wreath on the outside of the observation car.

Charged With Gambling.

Patrolmen M. F. Lumpkin and C. A. Lee early yesterday morning raided Room 302 in the Wallerstein Building, corner of Eighth and Grace Streets, and arrested J. W. Galbraith, twenty-four years old, a clerk, charged with running a gambling resort. Charged with gambling at the time and also arrested were J. W. Booker, George Laster, E. W. Edwards, G. E. Cooper and Robert Murray. All are young men.

Peace on Earth

and good will to all. A Happy Christmas and hope that everybody will enjoy the day thoroughly.

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Bene As National Banks
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Yours Very Truly

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